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*file 75 489*  
30 JUN 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Meeting with Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for International Security Affairs, James H. Noyes, on 26 June 1975

1. Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for International Security Affairs James H. Noyes called on us at his request to discuss the preparations for the proposed trip by members of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee to Somalia. This trip follows the public revelation of Secretary Schlessinger of the Soviet military handling facilities near Berbera and the continual denials by the Somalis in the face of the photographs which Secretary Schlessinger made public.

2. Mr. Noyes sought information from us as to the likely handling by the Somalis of the Senate delegation. We went over the difficulties laymen would find in getting good evidence on the site in the face of what would be no doubt the Somali obfuscation and procrastination. We noted that Berbera is a hot, dirty, windy town which would not appear militarily important.

3. Noyes said that Secretary Schlessinger proposed to make available to the Senators not only the C-130 aircraft to transport them to Somalia but also a helicopter from the COMMIDEAST Force to transport them about Berbera. It was agreed that the offer of the helicopter was an excellent tactic albeit one which the Somalis would probably turn down. It was also agreed that the Somalis could simply run up the Somali flag and have Somali guards around the installations where sensitive military and communications gear exist.

[Redacted]

We agreed to provide Mr. Noyes with the following:

[Redacted]

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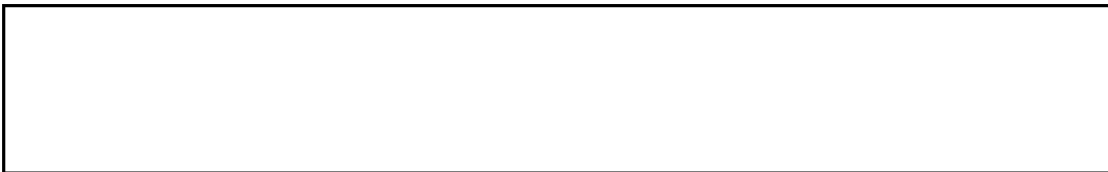
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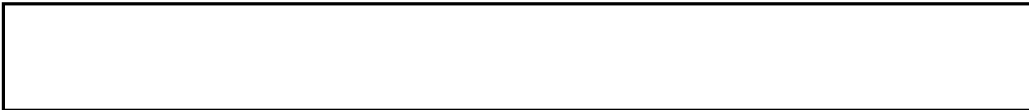
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a. A brief outline of the incident at Mersah Matruh in which the Soviets denied entry by Anwar Sadat to their facility.

b. A brief description of the handling by the Somalis of the CBS, the Arab League of Journalists and other similar visitors to Berbera.



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3. Mr. Noyes thought the Department of Defense briefing of the Senators would be before 3 July to permit a fairly early departure.



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(28 June 75)

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